

ZOEL MARTÍN VILATÓ

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CaixaBank Research

Av. Diagonal, 621 - 629, 08028, Barcelona, Spain

APPOINTMENTS

Economist <i>CaixaBank Research, Barcelona, Spain</i>	2023 - Present
Research Assistant for Professor Victoria Vanasco <i>Centre de Recerca en Economia Internacional (CREI), Barcelona, Spain</i>	2022 - 2023
Teaching Assistant <i>Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF), Barcelona, Spain</i>	2017 - 2021
Teaching Assistant <i>Barcelona School of Economics (BSE), Barcelona, Spain</i>	2017

EDUCATION

Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain <i>PhD in Economics</i>	2018 - 2023
Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain <i>MRES in Economics</i>	2016 - 2018
Barcelona School of Economics, Barcelona, Spain <i>MSC in Economics</i>	2015 - 2016
Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain <i>BSC in Economics</i>	2011 - 2015

REFERENCES

Professor Edouard Schaal CREI, UPF and BSE Ramon Trias Fargas, 25-27 08005 Barcelona eschaal@crei.cat	Professor Victoria Vanasco CREI and BSE Ramon Trias Fargas, 25-27 08005 Barcelona vvanasco@crei.cat	Professor Vladimir Asriyan CREI and BSE Ramon Trias Fargas, 25-27 08005 Barcelona vasriyan@crei.cat
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RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Job Market Paper

- *The Effect of Party Polarization on Environmental Policy. Evidence from Textual Data*
Consensus in the scientific community about the effect of human activity on Earth's climate is almost unanimous. At the same time, climate change has become one of the most polarizing topics in the political arena. In this paper, I use textual data from the United States legislatures to measure the environmental position of states. I estimate the effect of party polarization on climate policies by exploiting regional variation in responses to aggregate trends in the US Congress. I find that party polarization reduces the amount of climate-related bills and moderates the positions of both Republican and Democratic legislators. The results are only significant when the seat distribution between the two parties is tight. To rationalize these findings, I develop a simple model of the legislature incorporating party seat distribution. When polarization between parties is high, the legislature can either enter a

period of gridlock or approve extremist policies depending on the seat distribution. To understand the long run implications of polarization on climate change, I embed the legislative bargaining into a neoclassic growth model with a climate externality and show that the effects of polarization are mitigated by the exposure of the economy to climate change.

Working Papers

- *What's on the News? Mass Media and Persistent Slumps*

In this paper, I document that mass media become more coordinated in economic reporting when the economy is in a recession. I present a model that incorporates time-varying imperfect common knowledge to study the role of mass media in generating persistent economic slumps. As newspapers become more coordinated, economic conditions become increasingly more common knowledge among firms. During a recession, the decision of firms not to invest is amplified because they are aware that other firms are also not willing to invest. As a result, mass media contribute in turning an otherwise mild recession into a persistent slump.

Work in Progress

- *Does Polarization Foster Complex Regulations?* (joint with Dana Foarta and Victoria Vanasco)

SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

Conferences

- BSE PhD Jamboree (BSE; May 2022), Young Economist Symposium (Yale University; Aug. 2022), Monash-Warwick-Zurich Text-as-Data Workshop (online; Sept. 2022), Money-Macro-Finance Conference (University of Warsaw; Sept. 2022), Applied Young Economist Webinar (online; Nov. 2022)

Other

- Research in 4' (UPF, Apr. 2022)

TEACHING

Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Teaching Assistant

- Macroeconomics II (Undergraduate, Prof. Xavier Cuadras Morató, Fall 2020 and 2021)
- Data Analysis (Undergraduate, Coord. Walter Garcia-Fontes, Fall 2017 to 2021)
- Inferential Statistics for Criminology (Undergraduate, Prof. Eva Ventura Colera, Winter 2020 and 2021)
- International Economics (Undergraduate, Profs. Andrea Caggese and Danilo Guaitoli, Winter 2018 and 2019)

Barcelona School of Economics, Teaching Assistant

- Advanced Econometrics I (Masters, Profs. Majid Al-Sadoon and Geert Mesters, Fall 2017)

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

UPF Teaching Prize for PhD Students

2022

Received ex aequo with Malachy James Gavan

ACADEMIC AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES

Applied Macroeconomics Reading Group

2018 - 2020

Organizer

Bojos per l'Economia Coordinator

2018 - 2020

Coordinator. Organized by CREI and the UPF Department of Business and Economics

LANGUAGES AND IT SKILLS

Languages

*Spanish (native), Catalan (native), English (fluent),
French (fluent), Japanese (intermediate), German (intermediate)*

Software

R, PYTHON, STAN, MATLAB, \LaTeX , STATA